

Serologic markers for the different phases of acute and chronic hepatitis B virus infection

HBsAg	HBeAg	IgM anti-HBc	IgG anti-HBc	Anti-HBs	Anti-HBe	HBV DNA	Interpretation
Acute HBV infection							
+	+	+				+++	Early phase
		+				+	Window phase
			+	+	+	±	Recovery phase
Chronic HBV infection							
+	+		+		-	+++	HBeAg+ high replicative phase (immune tolerance or immune clearance)
+	-		+		+	±	HBeAg- low replicative or inactive phase
+	±	±	+			+	Flare of chronic HBV
+	-		+		+	++	HBeAg- replicative phase (HBeAg- chronic hepatitis, precore/core promoter variants)
-	-		± (generally +)	±	±	+	Occult HBV

Anti-HBc: antibody to hepatitis B core antigen; anti-HBe: antibody to hepatitis B e antigen; anti-HBs: antibody to hepatitis B surface antigen; HBeAg: hepatitis B e antigen; HBsAg: hepatitis B surface antigen; HBV: hepatitis B virus.

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